CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

GLENN S. SPENCER
VICE PRESIDENT
WORKFORCE FREEDOM INITIATIVE

1615 H STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20062-2000
DIRECT LINE 202/463-5769
GSPENCER@USCHAMBER.COM

June 1, 2015

The Honorable Mike Shirkey, Chairman Michigan Competitiveness Committee P.O. Box 30036 Lansing, MI 48909-7536

Via Email

Dear Senator Shirkey:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Workforce Freedom Initiative supports House Bill 4052 to provide for the consistent application of labor and employment law on businesses throughout Michigan. Employers seek clear and reliable regulatory standards by which to operate their businesses. When local government entities can create a patchwork of rules, guidelines and procedures that differ among and between communities, it increases unnecessary administrative burdens and may have a chilling effect on job growth.

Michigan's legislature has recently made great strides to improve the state's business climate. Since becoming the 24th right to work state in 2013 and reducing business and personal property taxes, Michigan's business reputation has improved. Regional competition among states for jobs and economic growth remains intense and House Bill 4052 includes a number of provisions that have been adopted throughout the country.

House Bill 4052 allows employers who operate in multiple jurisdictions within Michigan to achieve efficiencies by standardizing back office operations such as payroll and benefits. It would also prohibit local ordinances that interfere with the ability to exercise rights under federal labor law.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Workforce Freedom Initiative supports House Bill 4052 and recommends its passage to improve the business climate of Michigan.

Glenn Spencer, Vice President Workforce Freedom Initiative

Sincere